

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 157794

44

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 INR-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 /051 R

DRAFTED BY C:JDOBBINS

APPROVED BY C:HSNENFELDT

P - MR. MARTINEZ

S/S - MR. BORG

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R 032017Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T STATE 157794

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IT, US

SUBJECT: THE ITALIAN INTEREST IN NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS MEETINGS

REF: STATE 152144

1. DURING HIS FAREWELL CALL ON COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT, ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ORTONA SAID ITALIANS HOPED FOR A REPLY TO INQUIRY MADE TO UNDER SECRETARY SISCO CONCERNING THEIR EXCLUSION FROM THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS MEETINGS AND THEIR INTEREST IN BEING INFORMED ON THEIR CONTENTS. THE COUNSELOR REPLIED THAT THESE MEETINGS WERE LIMITED TO THE MAJOR NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS, THAT THERE HAD BEEN DISCUSSION ABOUT FURTHER PARTICIPATION, BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON ANY FURTHER EXPANSION BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY OF LIMITING SUCH EXPANSION TO ANY MANAGEABLE NUMBER. DISCUSSIONS TO DATE HAD BEEN STRICTLY EXPLORATORY. THESE MEETINGS WERE EXTREMELY SENSITIVE FOR SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND IT HAD BEEN AGREED THEREFORE THAT THEIR CONTENTS WOULD BE KEPT PRIVATE.

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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 157794

2. SONNENFELDT TOLD ORTONA THAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO ITALIAN INTEREST IN THESE MEETINGS IF AND WHEN THE DISCUSSIONS TOOK MORE CONCRETE FORM.

3. ORTONA TOOK NOTE OF THESE REMARKS AND SAID THAT THIS SITUATION DID PRESENT PROBLEMS FOR ITALY PARTICULARLY COMING AS IT DID JUST AFTER ITALY HAD RATIFIED THE NPT. HE PERSONALLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS SUBJECT WAS RELATED TO BUT SEPARATE FROM THE NPT. SISCO

SECRET

NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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